Carly Stauffer

Pd 2

3/20/12

Wiki Post #2

Summary

Pgs. 103-173

The more changes that come to China, the more worried and scared Ji-li’s parents become. One day the Red Guards decide to search through their house, and destroy almost every single possession they own. They’re left with basically nothing, having to rebuild their memories. They’re not the only family being affected by the changes. One day when Ji-li is heading home she came across a big crowd of people surrounding this woman; she realized it was her friend’s mom. People were angry with her because they accused her of mistreating her co-workers. She is beaten and humiliated in front of everyone. Ji-li doesn’t know what to think of this, she feels like her hopes and dreams are falling away every day. As she continues to deal with all these changes she finally starts Jr. High School. She finds herself happy with her new teacher and not having the same kids in the class, but one day she is asked to go up and write on the board. She backs out of it because she doesn’t want people finding out her background because her handwriting is so neat. Ji-li just can’t find a place where she feels happy anymore. Then she finds out that her dad has ended up in jail. He refused to follow the new rules. Her family becomes concerned and worried for the outcome of their dad’s fate.

Reflection

I feel like I can relate to Ji-li a lot more throughout these chapters. She finds herself caught up in all these changes, but she can’t change in the way she wants to. I feel sometimes certain things hold me back from making changes in my life. I feel sometimes that people in my life make decisions for me, without consulting how I feel first. Ji-li is just trying to be herself and express what she really wants, but with the law and these changes don’t allow her to.

Time and Culture

A characteristic that spans time and culture throughout these chapters is trying to express yourself or be someone you want to be. As we’ve seen through history people have always fought against the law or prejudices that have tried to stop them from expressing themselves for who they really are. Women’s rights activists, civil rights movements, people have just tried to put themselves out there to be treated fairly, to be heard and just be accepted. People that just want to change themselves for the better try to find something they love to do.